Oct 1974

2p

The MESSENGER

THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

St. Stephen's, Milnrow & Littleborough

FREE WORLD UNFREEDOM

Church State relations in SOUTH KOREA are far from happy. It is not that the government disapproves of religion or evangelism. Billy Graham's evangelistic campaign was a tremendous success and got all the official support it needed. Social action by the Church is another matter. The concern of some Christians for the living conditions of urban slum-dwellers and the complaints of others about the authoritarian invasion of human rights is deeply resented; "a poor country faced with a communist threat cannot afford all the democratic freedoms", say government spokesmen. Whatever one thinks of this argument the scale and fierceness of retaliation against criticism is stupefying. A series of special Security Regulations have built up the penalties against those taking part in or encouraging protests against government policy, and even against those merely reporting such actions, first to 15 years imprisonment then to life imprisonment and now since April 3rd, to the death penalty. A number of ministers and other Christian leaders, especially those involved in Urban mission and student work, have already received penalties up to 15 years under earlier regulations.

(How fortunate indeed we are to be living in a country where we are able to raise our voices as Christians in protest and not be imprisoned for doing so. Let us not forget to pray for our Christian brethren overseas who are being persecuted for their faith).

From the Manse

October 1974

My Dear Friends,

Do you admire the capable and efficient person? Have you admiration for those who can make and mend all kind of things? If you have then you are in the fashion, for this is the age of D.I.Y. The man or woman who can deal with things, who can repair or create, build or decorate is a true member of this generation, and is respected for the practical ability and application.

Do-it-Yourself is in many ways an admirable thing. It gives opportunity for members of the family to show what they can do. It gives interest and there is a degree of self-fulfilment in seeing how bright the lounge looks after the decorating effort, or how well the car goes after this or that has been done to it. There is also the point that it often works out more cheaply.

Do-it-Yourself can be carried too far though, and one way in which this can happen is when men seek to become their own god. However capable a person may be it must be realised that there are limitations to what the individual, or even organised groups of individuals can do.

If you are a thoughtful person you will be able to see that it is just not possible for man to be his own god. Having recognised this limitation then why not give God His rightful place? Everyone is responsible to Him for all they speak and think and do. Why not live with this sense of direct personal responsibility to God? It makes a great difference to one's life for good.

May God bless you and yours.

Your sincere friend,

ALFRED NASH

Thought for the month

Jesus said: "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No man comes to the Father but by me."

St. John: Chapter 14, Verse 6.

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With your Bible day by day

THE TRUTH

Sunday - Ephesians 4: 15 - The truth helps us love each other.

Monday - John 8: 32 - The truth keeps us free.

Tuesday- Second Epistle John v.4 - The truth helps us to be happy.

Wednesday - Psalm 43: 3 - The truth, like a light, helps to lead us.

Thursday - Psalm 15: 1,2- The truth helps us live with God.

Friday - Zechariah 8: 16- God tells us to tell the truth.

Saturday - John 17: 17 God's Word is truth.

OBITUARY

Mrs. MARY LAW aged 78 years,
of 93 Royds Street, Milnrow.
Service conducted at the home and at Rochdale Crematorium by Rev. A. Nash.

Mr. HARRY WOODCOCK, aged 64 years.
of 22 Moorland Avenue, Milnrow.
Service conducted at Crematorium by Rev.A.Nash.

May we extend our deepest sympathy to both of these bereaved families.

LADIES GUILD

What a very happy time was enjoyed by all who were present at our September meeting.

It had been called a "Surprise Night" and surprises galore were had during the evening from the opening in which we learnt some more about the surprises experienced by Paul, to the serious and humerous items given us by Mrs. Gillon, Mrs. Clough, Mrs. Baines, Mrs. Starkie and Mrs. Nash. Many surprised themselves at how clever they really can be on the drums, or Indian Bells - to say nothing of the embarrassment experienced by our Man and Wife Team who were ably cross-questioned about their private life.

Our thanks to all who took part in any way.

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From our October Meeting on the 1st of the month we hope to emerge as wise cooks for we shall be enjoying a Cookery Demonstration by the GAS Co. Do come along and bring a friend!

*

DISTRICT WOMENS RALLY

"We've always done it this way"

This is the title of a conference which has been arranged by the District Committee, being something in which more women can take part, than in the usual form of rally. This will be held at HOLLINWOOD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH on Wednesday, 23rd October at 7.30 p.m.

The speaker will be Mrs. Ayres of Stockport, who is the Chairman of the Provincial Women's Committee. The theme she has chosen (quoted above) will give us a lot of scope for thought and discussion, and we can be sure Mrs. Ayres will treat it so that it will be interesting and helpful to us all.

If you are interested in attending, please give your name to Mrs. C. Clough by 13th October.

MUM'S WORD

The Young Mums Group got off to a fine start in September. We meet each Wednesday afternoon from 2.0 pm. for a time of fellowship and friendship with each other. The children you bring with you who are not yet of school age, are looked after by our team of older friends.

Programmes for October have been arranged as follows:-

October 2nd... Opened by Mrs. A. Baines:
A 'Singing Afternoon'

9th... Opened by Mrs. J. Ineson:
Beetle Drive.

16th... Opened by Mrs. M. Holden:
A Quiz versus some older friends.

23rd... Opened by Mrs. Nash:
A Play Reading

30th... Opened by Mrs. C. Hey
Holiday Slides.

We shall welcome any Young Mum who is able to join us.

THRIFT SHOP

2.0 pm. to 3.30 pm.

7.0 pm. to 8.30 pm.

on

TUESDAY

October 15th

Admission 2p

THAT'S THE WAY THE MONEY GOES

A gift of 5p to CWM pays for.....
a triple injection against typhoid, tetanus and diptheria for an Indian child.

A gift of 10p to CWM pays for.....
10 asprins or a small packet of band-aids or 6 lbs of sweet potatoes or 1½ lbs. of fresh fish for hospital patients in New Guinea.

A gift of 15p to CWM pays for.....
a copy of "Good News for Modern Man" or twenty copies of Mark's Gospel in Hindi or Telugu.

A gift of 20p to CWM pays for.....
two penecillin injections or drugs for a leprosy patient for six months.

A gift of 50p to CWM pays for.....
a bed charge at Chikballapur Hospital in India for a week.

A gift of 80p to CWM pays for.....
a Bible for a new missionary.

A gift of £1 to CWM pays for.....
a Sunday School teacher's guide for a Samoan teacher.

.....but don't forget that these recently quoted figures may be out of date already as inflation rates are even higher in the wider world than they are in Europe.

That is one reason why churches in this country are now being asked to contribute more than before. Our Missionary Committee at St. Stephen's are making every effort to meet an increased target.

A Coffee Morning and Evening was held at Mr. & Mrs. Emmotts new home on 30th August and we are grateful to Dorothy and Jum for their hospitality and to all those who helped us to raise £9.25 on that day.

Missionary Boxes are to be opened on October 20th so please return your box to church on that date.

If you don't have a box of your own there is one in the church porch ready to receive your donation, and Mrs. Baines will be glad to issue boxes to anyone on request.

GETTING TOGETHER - by Patience Strong

"Getting together means so much; the welcome smile, the human touch - sharing a bit of a day God sends - meeting face to face as friends.

The club, the Church, the Village Hall - extend their fellowship to all. Open the door, pull up the blind. A kindred spirit you will find - discussing the weather, and the news - making new friends, exchanging views.

Why lonely and unhappy be? when all you need is company; getting together with other folks- enjoying the chat, the fun, the jokes..... Just look around and you will find one day, there's an open door not far away."

(And should there be any such lonely ones in Milnrow, let us see to it that they are given an invitation to join us at St. Stephen's).

SPONSORED WALK

About 27 people took part in the Sponsored Walk which took place on the 31st August, after a dull and wet start to the day. All enjoyed the afternoon walk which went by the Golf Club, Rakewood to Hollingworth Lake and back along Wildhouse Lane to St. Stephen's. Two energetic young men went round twice.

When all the sponsor money is collected it is expected to be in the region of £20.

DOES'T WANT SUM FUN? DOES'T WANT A TREAT?
- THEN CUM TO OUR LANCASHIRE NEET!

FRIDAY, 25th October - at 7.30 pm.

DRESS - LANCASHIRE STYLE

Dig out those old cloth caps, scarves and shawls - you may win a prize!

EDWARDIAN WISDOM

Lying about various lofts and attics in Milnrow there are copies of a little booklet of poems, recipes and mottos produced in February 1908 by the Young Ladies Class. We thought that a few quotations from this might jog some memories:

"Do all the good you can, to all the people you can, in all the places you can"
(Levi Heywood, Milnrow)

"Act upon this prudent plan -
say little and here all you can"
(Miss Annie Stott, Newhey)

"Never say die; never tell a lie;
Never put your finger in another mans pie"
(Mr. J.B.Grindrod, Newhey)

"A Sunday School is in debt
So at a bazaar we have met;
And unless you are kind,
I am afraid we shall find
We still have a balance to get"
(Clement Travis, Milnrow)

To make a smokeless fire,
"Clear the grate and cover the bottom with a sheet of paper, place the coals level to the top. Light your fire from the top and let it burn downwards. It will save pounds.
(Miss Jackson, Milnrow)

"The mansions in the sky are not castles in the air"
(Miss M.Butterworth, Milnrow)

"Kindness to the just is never lost"
(Mrs. Edward Prince, Newhey)

"How to secure happiness - Make it!"
(Mr. H. Rae, Milnrow)

If these extracts do bring back recollections for our older members, write and tell us about them, please.

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Have you
read the

W E L C O M E

notice on the
wall of the
church porch?

OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

The weather was sort of doubtful, sort of warm, and sort of fine for the trip to Todmorden Park. We managed to have all the usual fun without any mishaps although when we returned to the station we learned that there had been a de-railment, so we had to come home by bus; thus being deprived of another journey through "the tunnel".

*

DON'T FORGET (1)

The children's fancy dress parade is on November 2nd, so now is the time to start looking through those cupboards and drawers for suitable material.

DON'T FORGET (2)

While you are rummaging through those cupboards and drawers, don't forget that in three weeks time we would be grateful for some jumble for the Women's Guild Sale.

(eh? Do you know anybody who wants to buy a Women's Guild?)

*

The WOMEN'S GUILD are having an open evening on Tuesday 15th October at 7.30 p.m., when Mr. Norman Higham, who is a former member of the Sunday School, will show slides of a visit made to the Himalayas.

Please bring your friends!

DROPS FOR DRAPES

The ladies of the Drapery Stall wish to thank everyone for their support at the Coffee Evening on the 27th August.

The proceeds came to £17.00

*

CHRISTMAS IS COMING

If you have not already seen a Christmas Card and Gift Catalogue please contact Mrs. Lightfoot or Mrs. K. Hill, who will be pleased to supply you. Time is getting short since we wish to place orders to ensure delivery before stocks run out, as they could do nearer Christmas.

GRANNY

In America recently a group of children were asked what they thought about grandmother. Among the replies were these:

"Grandmothers don't have anything to do except just be there."

"Everyone should have at least one granny, especially if they don't have television."

"They don't need to look smart but must be good at answering questions like why gods hate cats and why God isn't married."

As for grandfathers:

"A grandfather is just a man grandmother."

(From the Friendship Book of Francis Gay)

CHURCH DUTIES - MILNROW

FAMILY CHURCH DOOR STEWARDS

Oct. 6th	Mrs. F. Butterworth	Mr. H. Mellor
13th	Mr. D. Fursey	Mrs. J. Duffy
20th	Mr. J. Harrison	Counc. I. Royle
27th	Mrs. A. Collins	Mrs. P. Royle
Dec. 3rd	Mr. A. Bruckshaw	Mrs. A. Baines

ELDERS COMMUNION ROTA
EVENING DOOR STEWARDS

Oct. 6th	Mrs. E. Gillon	Mr. D. Logan
13th	Mr. B. Clough	Mrs. C. Hey
20th	Mrs. M. Howarth	Mr. J. Emmott
27th	Mr. J. Emmott Mr. R. Gillon	Mrs. E. Starkie
Nov. 3rd	Mrs. N. Settle	Mr. D. Logan

ORGANIST/PIANIST EVENING WORSHIP

COMMUNION ROTA

Oct. 6th	Mr. R. Gillon	Miss M. Wood
20th	Mr. B. Clough	Mr. A. Roberts
Nov. 3rd	Mrs, M. Howarth	Mr. J. Wild

FAMILY CHURCH COFFEE ROTA

Oct. 6th	Mrs. J. Cudworth	Mrs. N. Settle
13th	Mrs. E. Busill	Miss I. Tither
20th	Mrs. H. Buckley	Mrs. E. Smith
27th	Miss M. Wood	Miss A. Clegg
Nov. 3rd	Mrs. J. Duffy	Mrs. F. Butterworth

Persons unable to take their appointments as listed are expected to find a suitable substitute

OFFERTORIES

	Cash			
	am.	pm.	Envelopes	Total
August 4th	11.68	3.38	18.68	33.74
11th	4.62	2.19	14.07	20.88
18th	8.54	2.82	15.50	26.86
25th	6.34	3.15	20.03	29.52
	£31.18	£11.54	£68.28	£111.00

CHURCH DUTIES — LITTLEBOROUGH

DOORSTEWARDS

Oct.	6th	Mr. F. Beattie	Mr. J. Holt
	13th	Mr. F. Ingham	Mrs. Crossley am.
		Mr. E. Holt	Mr. J. Lord pm.
	20th	Mrs. Stott	Mr. J. Nairn
	27th	Mr. J. Hill	Mr. H.N. Hill
Nov.	3rd	Mr. J. Holt	Mr. F. Beattie

ELDERS COMMUNION ROTA

Oct.	6th	Mr. J. Lord	Mr. F. Ingham
	27th	Mr. Simpson	Mr. J. Nairn am.

COFFEE ROTA

Oct.	6th	B. Holt	J. Law
	13th	A. Wall	L. Kelsall
	20th	L. Butterworth	J. Allison
	27th	A. Merrick	S. Moss
Nov.	3rd	H. Vincent	W. Spinks

Persons unable to take their appointments as listed are expected to find a suitable substitute.

FAMILY CHURCH READINGS

Oct.	6th	"God's world our home" Psalm 145: 3 - 13	M. Grindrod
	13th	"The resources of the earth" Job 28: 1-5, 7-13	S. Moss
	20th	"Life from the sea" Psalm 107: 23-32	K. Hill
	27th	"Sky and space" Psalm 148: 1-6	M. Law
Nov.	3rd		H. Vincent

ST. STEPHEN'S DIARY

October

Tues.	1st	7.30 pm.	Women's Guild: Cookery Demo.
Wed.	2nd	7.30 pm.	Finance Committee
Fri.	4th	7.30 pm.	Come Dancing
Sun.	6th	11.00 am.	Mr. A. Roberts
		6.00 pm.	Mrs. A. Collinge
Mon.	7th	5.45 - 6.30 pm.	Pre-Pilots) And each
		6.30 pm.	Pilots) Monday
		8.00 pm.	Young Peoples Fellowship- "
Wed.	9th	7.30 pm.	Elders Meeting
		7.30 pm.	Whist Drive -(And each Wednesday)
Sat.	12th		Provincial Synod at Cheadle U.R.C.
Sun.	13th	11.00 am.	Promotion Sunday
		6.00 pm.	Mr. R. Birtwistle
Tues.	15th		THRIFT SHOP
		2.00 - 3.30 pm.	
		7.00 - 8.30 pm.	
Sun.	20th	11.00 am.	Rev. A. Nash
		6.00 pm.	"
			Reception of CWM. Boxes at either service.
Wed.	23rd	7.30 pm.	District Women's Rally at Hollinwood U.R.C.
Fri.	25th	7.30 pm.	Lancashire Neet
Sun.	27th	11.00 am.	Mr. D. Jones
		6.00 pm.	Rev. A. Nash (Guest Night)

November

Sun.	2nd	11.00 am.	Rev. A. Nash
		6.00 pm.	Service of Word & Sacrament

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FLOWERS FOR COMMUNION TABLE

Oct.	6th	Mrs. D. Hey
	13th	Mrs. M. Lee
	20th	Mrs. Fallon & Mrs. Scholes
	27th	Mrs. Brown
Nov.	3rd	Miss A. Memory

LITTLEBOROUGH DIARY

OCTOBER

Tues. 1st	7.30 pm.	Church Meeting
Wed. 2nd	6.45 pm.	Pilots
Sun. 6th	10.30 am.	Mr. J. Lord
Tues. 8th	7.30 pm.	Coffee Evening B & B in aid of Tea Room.
Wed. 9th	6.45 pm.	Pilots
Sun. 13th	10.30 am.	Rev. Dudley Blades (Baptism)
	6.00 pm.	Rev. A. Nash (Communion)
Tues.15th	7.30 pm.	Womens Guild: Slide Show
Wed. 16th	6.45 pm.	Pilots
Sun. 20th	10.30 am.	Mrs. Nash
Wed. 23rd	6.45 pm.	Pilots
Thur.24th		Reception of Jumble
Fri. 25th	7.00 pm.	Jumble Sale (Womens Guild)
Sun. 27th	10.30 am.	Lay Preacher (Communion)
Wed. 30th	6.45 pm.	Pilots
Thur.31st	7.30 pm.	Mens Fellowship: Rev.A. Nash

NOVEMBER

Sat. 2nd	7.00 pm.	Family Social & Fancy Dress (Mums please note)

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FLOWERS FOR THE COMMUNION TABLE

Oct. 6th	Mrs, Lightfoot
13th	Mrs. Stott & Mrs. Cryer
20th	Mrs. Tattersall
27th	Mrs. Greenwood
Novl 3rd	Mrs. Mallinson

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OFFERTORIES

	Cash	Envelopes
August 4th	1.98½	13.02½
11th	3.25½	9.91½
18th	1.89	12.88
25th	1.63	9.72
Sept. 1st	1.66½	12.67½
8th	Holidays	

MINISTER:

Revd. A.V.J. Nash B.A.,
The Manse,
196 Harbour Lane,
Milnrow.
Tel: ROCHDALE 50161

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CHURCH SECRETARIES:

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*

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*

HOSPITAL VISITORS:

MILNROW:

Miss M. Wood
Mrs. A. Wood
Mrs. E. Starkie
Miss A. Memory
Mrs. N. Settle

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